

#4 2131



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7937.0002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Mark TUOMENOKSA et al. )  
)  
Application No.: 09/814,178 ) Group Art Unit: 2131  
)  
Filed: March 22, 2001 ) Examiner: Unknown  
)  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR )  
MANAGING AND CONFIGURING )  
VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS )

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the

documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

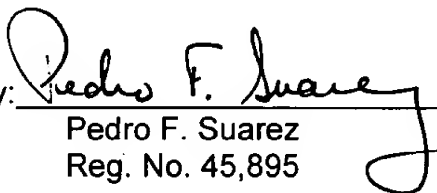
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

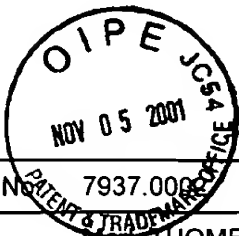
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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Dated: November 5, 2001

By:   
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	7937.000	Serial No.	09/814,178
Applicant Mark TUOMENOKSA et al.			
Filing Date	March 22, 2001	Group:	2131

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No

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## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Hurwitz Group, "How Small and Midsize Businesses Can Turn the Internet into a Private Network for Competitive Advantage," June 2000, downloaded from <a href="http://www.openreach.com">http://www.openreach.com</a> on January 4, 2001.
	Applied Technologies Group, "A Practical Guide to the Right VPN Solution," 2000, downloaded from <a href="http://www.openreach.com">http://www.openreach.com</a> on January 23, 2001.
	OpenReach, "Demystifying VPN: An Introduction to VPN Technology," 2000, downloaded from <a href="http://www.openreach.com">http://www.openreach.com</a> on January 4, 2001.
	OpenReach, "Private Connections / Open Networks," presented on February 20, 2001.
	OpenReach, "Transforming the Internet into My Private Backbone for Business: Demystifying VPNs," presented on November 7, 2000.
	NetworkMagazine.com, "Special Report: VPN Overlay Networks: An Answer to Networks-Based IP VPNs?," June 5, 2001, downloaded from <a href="http://www.networkmagazine.com">http://www.networkmagazine.com</a> on November 5, 2001.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce